Reports Against cutting of Trees

2756. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of reports received against the cutting of trees in different Government forests during the last three years State-wise;

(b) the number of persons arrested for cutting trees in Government forests during the above period, State-wise;

(c) the number of persons convicted on account of cutting trees, State-wise during the same period; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to save trees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) to (c) Details will be collected and placed on the table of the house.

(d) The following guidelines have been issued to the State Governments/UT's to save the trees:

(i) Checking illicit felling of trees and removal of forest produce.

(ii) Enforcement of the provisions of the Indian Forest Act.

(iii) Providing deterrent punishment to the offenders.

(iv) Programme for Wasteland Development for fodder.

(v) Strengthening of Forest Protection Forces.

(vi) Control on shifting cultivation.

(vii) Stricter control on functioning of saw and Veneer mills.

(viii) Increase in protected areas like Wildlife Sanctuaries and National Parks.

(ix) Closure of vulnerable forest areas to grazing.

(x) Promotion of use of alternative fuel to reduce pressure on forests on account of firewood extraction.

(xi) Substitution of wood in industries, railways and other uses.

(xii) Elimination of contractors.

(xiii) Guidelines for preparation of working plans and felling in the forests issued to State/UTs for conservation of fragile areas in particular.

(xiv) Restriction on felling trees above an altitude of 1000 meters.

In addition, the Central Government has introduced a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for development of infrastructure for protection of forests from biotic interference, under which funds are provided to the State Governments on a shared basis, to prevent illegal exploitation of forests.

Assessment of river water pollution

2757. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some new methods have been developed by experts to assess river water pollution; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The methods include remote sensing, computerised pollution monitoring systems and rapid estimation of Bio-Chemical Oxygen Demand.

Import and export trade

2758. SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH:

SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR

Will the Minister of COMMERCE pleased to state:

(a) what is the value of impo export trade with each country du last three years;

(b) what are the changes witnessed in trade with each region of the world during these three years and the trend expected in 1987-88;

(c) what are the names of the countries with which counter trade arrangements have been concluded for the year 1987-88 against our crude oil imports;

(d) what is the quantity and value of copper, nickel and tin imported from each country by MMTC during the last three years; and

(e) what is the quantity and value of rice exported by India to each country during each of three years and the erpected exports during this year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) A statement indicating India's exports and imports by principal countries during 1984-85, 1985-86 and 1986-87 is enclosed at Annexure [*See* Appendix CXLIII, Annexure No. 111].

(b) A statement indicating percentage share of different regions in India's total trade during 1984-85, 1985-86 and 1986-87 is enclosed as Statement-I (*See below*). It is difficult to precisely indicate the trends expected during 1987-88.

(c) No counter trade agreements have been concluded by STC|MMTC against our crude oil imports for the year 1987-88. In case of Iraq, payments for imports of crude oil are partly adjusted against outstanding dues of the Indian companies. In respect of Soviet Union, which also supplies oil, payments are made as under the Trade Agreement which provides for payments in rupees.

(d) Statements indicating Quantity and Value of Copper, Nickle and Tin, imports made by MMTC, country-wise, during 1984-85, 1985-86 and 1986-87 are enclosed as Statements-II, III and IV respectively (*See* below).

(e) A statement indicating Quantity and Value of Basmati Rice exported by India, country-wise, during 1984-85, 1985-85, 1986-87 is enclosed at Annexure [*See* Appendix CXLIII, Annexure No.112]. There were no exports of Non-Basmati Rice during 1986-87 exports Non- Basmati Rice during 1984-85 and 1985-86. However, according to APEDA, during 1986-87 exports of non-basmati rice were 2689 tonnes valued at Rs. 1.32 crores. These are provisional export figures and the country-wise break-up for the same is not available. Export of Rice during 1987-88 will depend on international trading environment and exportable surpluses likely to be available.

Statement I

Percentage Share of different regions in India's total exports

	1984-85	1985 86	1986-87
1. West Europe	25·6	26·4	33·2
2. Asia & Oceania	38.0	37 7	34.4
3. Africa	3.0	3.3	3.5
America	16·5	17·4	16 5
ast Europe	16 5	15 2	12 4
TOTAL	100 0	100 0	100 0

Statement-II

MMTC's Countrywise Imports of Copper, 1984-85 to 1986-87

(Quantity : M/T)
(Value : Rs. lakhs)

	1984-85		1985-86		1986-87 (Provisional)	
	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value
1. Zambia	25425	4253	50019	8061	20917	3669
2. Zaire	6918	1178	12103	2208	14374	2525
3. U.K.	1995	274	5981	1191	...	...
4. Chile	1000	159	4998	955	6011	1070
5. France	6487	1181	3496	705	...	...
6. Peru	...	...	1008	195	...	...
7. W. Getmany	...	...	...	...	1084	305
8. Others	190	36	140	32	465	91
TOTAL	41915	7082	77745	13347	42851	7660

Statement-III

Countrywise Import of Nickel by MMTC

(Qt. : M/T)
(Value : Rs. Lakhs)

S.No. Source	1984—1985		1985—1986		1986-87 (Provisional)	
	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value
1. U.K.	390	721	1704	1100	514	273
2. USSR	1969	1068	1264	821	1485	755
3. Finland	764	473	767	479	210	109
4. Norway	1704	942	728	440	364	195
5. Canada	1243	760	713	476	349	181
6. Dominicial Republic	1910	1022	546	350	...	...
7. France	541	345	449	303	54	
8. Australia	784	432	205	112	452	
9. Others	5706	3207	639	405	54	
TOTAL	15011	8970	7015	4486	3482	

Statement IV

Countrywise Imports of Tin by MMTC

(Qty. : MT)
(Value : Rs. Lakhs)

	1984—1985		1985—1986		1986-87 (Provisional)	
	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value
1. Malaysia . .	1685	2445	585	786	2504	1917
2. Indonesia . .	620	887	485	665	508	387
3. Brazil . .	...	...	2227	338	48	47
4. Thailand . .	120	173	218	302	100	88
5. U.K. . .	...	...	170	248	248	205
6. Others . .	50	76	...	...	140	95
TOTAL . .	2475	3581	1685	2389	3548	2739

Monitoring of information regarding agricultural labour

2759. SHRI SUBASH MOHANTY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government monitor information about the agricultural labourers who are not getting minimum wages as yet at many places in the country;

(b) if so, which are the places so identified; and

(c) what corrective measures have been taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) to (c) The State Governments Under the provisions of the Minimum Wages Act for review and implementation of minimum wages for most of the agriculture workers. However, the Central Government generally monitor the enforcement of minimum wages for unorganised labour in agriculture and industry under the 20 Point Programme. Various aspects relating to enforcement of minimum wages we discussed recently in the Labour Ministers' Conference held on the 20th May, 1987 and the conclusions of the Conference in this respect are given in the statement. [*See* below). The State Governments/Union Territories have been requested to take necessary follow-up action.

Statement

In order to raise the status of unorganised labour it is essential to implement the labour laws which most closely concern them. Among these are the Minimum Wages Act, 1948; Inter-State Migrant Workmen (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1979; The Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970; the Bonded Laboud System (Abolition) Act, 1976; the Equal Remuneration Act, 1976; the Child Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1986; the Beedi and Cigar Workers (Conditions of Employment) Act, 1966; and

Minimum Wages fixed under the Minimum Wages Act should bear a relation to the concept of the "Poverty Line After discussion, it was generally felt that a level of wages not lower than Rs. 11.00 per day should be fixed. It was indicated by many States that the minimum wages notified by them were already at or above this level.

The need for addition of specific employments in the schedule and periodical revi-